

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6572

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: PM'S POLICY SPEECH TO PARLIAMENT

BRUSSELS FOR AMBASSADOR KUBISCH

FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT EXCERPTS FROM PM CARAMANLIS'
POLICY SPEECH TO PARLIAMENT EVENING OF DECEMBER 11:

A) CYPRUS AND TURKEY. SERIOUS DISPUTES OPPOSE US TO
OUR NEIGHBOR TURKEY, BOTH IN RELATION TO THE CYPRUS QUESTION
AS WELL AS ON A BILATERAL LEVEL. THESE DIFFERENCES RELATE
TO VITAL INTERESTS OF THE NATION WHICH THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT
DISPOSED TO LEAVE DEFENSELESS. GREECE BELIEVED AND CONTINUES
TO BELIEVE IN THE NECESSITY OF GRECO-TURKISH FRIENDSHIP AS
DICTATED BY THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF THE TWO COUNTRIES
AND THEIR COURSE THROUGH HISTORY. BUT TURKEY DESTROYS THIS
FRIENDSHIP WITH ITS AGGRESSIVENESS. GREECE PREFERS CONSULTATION
TO A CONFRONTATION OF FORCES BECAUSE SHE IS A PEACELOVING
COUNTRY BY NATURE, HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY. BUT SHE HAS PROVEN
REPEATEDLY THAT SHE KNOWS HOW TO DEFEND HER NATIONAL INTERESTS WHEN
THREATENED. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT ALWAYS HOPES THAT TURKEY, ASSESSING
ITS MORE PERMANENT INTEREST, WILL REVISE HER PROVOCATIVE BEHAVIOR AND
THAT IT WILL STOP CONSTITUTING A THREAT TO PEACE IN THIS MOST
SENSITIVE REGION OF THE WORLD. AS TO CYPRUS, I WISH TO DECLARE
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FROM THIS ROSTRUM TOO --AS I ALREADY DID DURING MY RECENT TALKS WITH

THE CYPRIOT LEADERSHIP--THAT GREECE PROVIDES HER FULL SUPPORT TO THE SUFFERING PEOPLE OF CYPRUS. AND I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT YIELD TO ACCOMPLISHED FACTS, NOR WILL IT ACCEPT SOLUTIONS NATIONALLY INADMISSIBLE.

B) NATO AND U.S. BASES. AS IT IS KNOWN, GREECE HAS PARTICIPATED IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS. BUT WHEN, SOME FOUR MONTHS AGO, THIS ALLIANCE PROVED NOT ONLY INCAPABLE OF PREVENTING BUT FURTHER TOLERATED THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS, GREECE THEN WITHDREW WITHOUT ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION FROM THE MILITARY SECTION OF THE ORGANIZATION. IN APPLICATION OF THIS DECISION, MY GOVERNMENT, THROUGH RECENT NOTES IS NOW ENTERING INTO THE TECHNICALITIES OF THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE MILITARY ALLIANCE IN PRACTICE ON ONE HAND AND, ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS REVIEWING THE STATUS OF AMERICAN BASES IN GREECE. BUT THIS DOES NOT IMPLY THAT GREECE INTENDS TO INTERRUPT HER POLITICAL, CULTURAL AND OTHER RELATIONS WITH THE WESTERN WORLD.
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